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State of Louisiana
Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee
<http://www.ohsep.louisiana.gov/interop.htm>

BRANT MITCHELL
CHAIRMAN

SONYA WILEY-GREMILION
VICE CHAIRMAN

MINUTES

Wednesday September 23, 2009

The Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) met on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at Capitol Park Welcome Center, 702 River Road North, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Brant Mitchell called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. Roll Call

The SIEC roll call was called by Travis Johnson, and a quorum was established.

The following SIEC members were present and absent.

Committee Members Present	Representing Agency
Brant Mitchell	Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP)-Office of Interoperability
Mike Gusky (Proxy for Ed Driesse)	Division of Administration
Captain Alan Dunn (Proxy for COL Thibodeaux)	Louisiana National Guard
Ronald Bourque	Louisiana Fire Chiefs Association
Tommy Thiebaud	Regional Parish Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness Directors Committee
Jeya Selvaratnam	Dept. of Public Safety & Corrections, Public Safety Services
Donna Newchurch	Louisiana Ambulance Alliance
Ken Hughes	Region 1
Billie Grior	Region 2
Eric Deroche	Region 3
Ken Harlow	Region 5
Sonya Wiley-Gremillion	Region 6
Committee Members Absent	Representing Agency
Sheriff Ricky Edwards	Louisiana Sheriffs Association
Chief Freddie Drennan	Louisiana Association of Chiefs of Police
Mark Ford	Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
Bill Vincent	Association of Public Safety Communications

	Officials, Louisiana Chapter
Lee Hebert	Region 4
Sandy Davis	Region 7
Gary Peters	Region 8
Chief Merrick Tassin	Region 9

III. Approval of Minutes

Eric Deroche made a motion to approve the August 26, 2009 meeting minutes. Ken Hughes seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the August 26, 2009 meeting.

IV. Chairman's Report

A. Opening remarks

Chairman Brant Mitchell began by stating that on Sept. 22, 2009, Pail Rainwater spoke with the Louisiana Recovery Authority Board (LRA). During this discussion it was decided that part of his distribution of over \$100 million dollars worth of grants, \$22 million would be set aside to support LWIN. The three priorities for these funds are: capacity, subscriber units, and microwave connectivity (i.e. Southern Louisiana). The LRA board has approved this plan and there is \$22 million dollars that can be applied for. The next step of this process is to turn in an application, which is due by October, 15, 2009. This application is to be submitted to the LRA who will then in turn submit this document to the U.S. Housing of Urban Development (HUD) for final approval. The intent for this endeavor is to tie in interoperability with Low Income housing. It has been reported that this effort has been successful as there are parishes that have received approval to use funds based on showing this connection. The Needs Assessment Survey, which was sent out to all parishes and due by October 2nd, is vital to submit to HUD based on their requirements.

B. Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program (IECGP) Regional Communications events

The first drill and training event was held in June in Region 5 (Lake Charles), which served as a template for events to be held throughout the state in the future. Tentatively, the next drill and training event has been scheduled for the second week in December being held in Region 7. After this event, it is tentatively being planned for the next training to be held in Region 9 where a date has not been set but looking at a timeframe within January-March. Next, there will be a larger training event being held in Region 1 tied in with the National Guard Disaster Exercise, where the hope is to receive Federal participation (i.e. FEMA, Coast Guard).

C. Policy Updates

Chairman Mitchell unveiled the new GOHSEP website and stated that the website will be viewable to the public on Sept. 27th. On the LWIN portion of the website, all policy updates will be posted and those viewing could leave comments on the proposed policy changes. Due to the Policy and Planning committee not being able to meet, the policy updates can be found on the website and is ready to be transferred to the committee for consideration. Based upon the favorable comments received, the staff is looking into some internal changes within the document. After all comments received this policy will then be referred to Bill Vincent and the Committee to make a recommendation on acceptance of this policy.

The Network Patch Policy will be placed on the website for public comment on September 24, 2009.

The Calcasieu School Board, who has been approved to come on to the LWIN System, has (300) radios, which only receive (48) talk groups. Based upon the LWIN policy, the minimum requirement for radios is (70) talk groups. Therefore, it is being proposed that in our policy there be allowed a minimum standard of at least (48) talk groups and (16) talk groups as the minimum requirement for parish, region, and interoperability talk groups.

The language, referring to the security key found in the Access policy, is being proposed and considered stating that there will need to be a security key or a personality lock in order to be on the system.

D. Future Consideration

Chairman Mitchell stated to the Committee that the SIEC is responsible for enhancing all communication systems throughout the state. As LWIN branches out, then the focus can be shifted to other communication needs/enhancements. Through the Hazard Mitigation grant approved on last week, there has been secured \$1.5 million dollars for a Citizen Alert System, which allows detailed information to be sent out to citizens and is built off the backbone of FM Radio towers. Jim Lowery, with Global Security Systems/ALERT FM, was called in to present to the Committee what the capabilities are for this system.

Chairman Mitchell asked SIEC Committee members to share comments on the warning alert system, MyState, which will be opened to a new RFP. If there are any comments or suggestions, forward them to him and then this document will be brought back to the Committee once prepared.

V. Presentation: Global Security Systems/ALERT FM

Jim Lowery provided the Committee with the overview, capabilities, and functions of the ALERT system. Mr. Lowery's report is attached as Appendix A.

VI. Statewide System Maintenance

Terry Waggenspack provided an update on Infrastructure, system statistics, subscriber statistics, and system coverage. Mr. Selvaratnam's report is attached as Appendix B.

VII. Sub-Committee Reports

A. Technical Sub-Committee

Technical Sub-Committee Chairman Eric Deroche stated that during the last Technical Sub-Committee meeting a great deal of time was spent on evaluating and reviewing the Motorola Presentation of ISSI. Chairman Deroche presented to the Committee the (3) presentations done by Motorola Interoperable Solutions Product Manager Director, Cynthia Cole. The three presentations given are attached as Appendix B.

Chairman Mitchell opened the floor to make a motion of acceptance for SIEC to participate in the Project 25 (P25) Inter RF Subsystem Interface (P25 ISSI). Ken Hughes made a motion to accept. Donald Milligan seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to participate in the Project 25 (P25) Inter RF Subsystem Interface (P25 ISSI).

B. Policy and Planning Sub-Committee

Policy and Planning Sub-Committee Chairman Bill Vincent was not present. Chairman Mitchell stated that Policy and Planning Subcommittee has not met as of this date, but will recommend the policy changes be adopted before the next SIEC meeting and will ask that any recommendations be brought to the full SIEC for adoption.

C. Budget and Finance Sub-Committee

Budget and Finance Subcommittee Chairman Sheriff Ricky Edwards was not present. Chairman Mitchell stated that he will request to Sheriff Edwards to have a meeting that will focus on Fiscal Year 2011 Budget to present at the next SIEC meeting.

VIII. Old Business

No report.

IX. New Business

Daphne Levenson extended an invitation to the Mississippi Wireless Commission Meeting on October 1, 2009. Also, an invitation was extended to the Technology Commission Summit in late October. The following states are registered: Texas, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Tennessee, Louisiana, and other Gulf Coast states.

X. Public Comments

No public comments

XI. Closing

Chairman Mitchell stated that due to the GCICC Conference being held during the 4th week of October, Chairman Mitchell will send out an email to get feedback from the committee to announce a new date.

Chairman Mitchell advised that the SIEC Committee will not be meeting during the month of November and December, but will begin to have monthly meetings January 2010.

XII. Adjournment

Tommy Thiebaud made a motion to adjourn. Donald Milligan seconded the motion. The SIEC voted unanimously to adjourn.